Name of Block	Awardee
CB-ONN-2003/1 Part-A&B	Reliance Industries Ltd.
CB-ONN-2003/2	Gujarat State Petroleum Corpn. Ltd.-Gas Authority of India Limited-Jubilant Capital Pvt. Ltd.-Geo Global Resources Ltd.
DS-ONN-2003/1	Geo Global Resources
KG-ONN-2003/1	Cairn Energy India Limited-Cairn Energy (4) Limited-Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.
CY-ONN-2003/1	Niko Resources (NELP-V) Ltd.

In respect of 2 blocks namely AA-ONN-2003/1 and AA-ONN-2003/2, certain representations raising legal issues have been received and they are being examined in the Government.

Demand for natural gas

†901. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand for natural gas is increasing continuously in the country during the last few years;

(b) if so, the average annual increase in its demand for last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the prices of gas as well as its demand have been on rise;

(d) if so, its price in the country in March, 2002 and during July, 2005 respectively; and

(e) the names of institutions which are engaged in the trade of gas?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) There is a demand-supply gap in the gas market in India. The following table gives a comparison of the projected

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

gas demand during 2002-03 to 2004-05 as per the 10th Five Year Plan, and the availability of gas in the country for different consumers:

(MMSCMD*)

Year	Demand	Availability
2002-03	145	70.88
2003-04	155 (7%)	73.30
2004-05	176(4%)	81.45**

*million standard cubic metre per day.
**this includes 8.85 MMSCMD of imported regasified LNG.

(c) and (d) The consumer price of natural gas which was under the purview of Administered Price Mechanism (APM) had remaind unchanged at Rs. 2850/MCM@ 10,000 Kcal/SCM from October, 1999 to June, 2005.

With effect from 1.7.2005, Government have notified that all available APM gas would be supplied to only the power and fertilizer sector consumer against their existing allocations along with the specific end users committed under Court orders/small scale consumers having allocations upto 0.05 MMSCMD at the revised price of Rs. 3200/MCM. However, the gas price for transport sector (CNG), Agra-Ferozabad small industries and other small scale consumers having allocations upto 0.05 MMSCMD would be progressively increased over the next 3 to 5 years to reflect the market price. Apart from APM price, natural gas is also being marketed by private/JV producers and other marketeers at market price which is in the range of Rs. 5500/MSCM to Rs. 7000/ MSCM.

(e) The companies engaged in trading/marketing of gas in the country include Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), Oil India Limited (OIL), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPCL), Gujarat Gas, Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL), Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL), Assam Gas Company Limited (AGCL), Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), etc.